

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 CAB-05 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

FAA-00 AID-05 OC-05 CCO-00 SY-05 SCCT-01 /088 W

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O 142140Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3354

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL DOUALA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL KADUNA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL IBADAN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS LAGOS 1889

DEPT PLEASE RPPEAT ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AND CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY IMMEDIATE

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PINS NI

SUBJ: GEN. OBASANJO'S BROADCAST TO NATION

1. LT GENERAL O. OBASANJ INEW HEAD OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND
COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF NIGERIAN ARMED FORCES IN NATIONWIDE
RADIO AND TV BROADCAST THIS EVENING AT 2100 HRS LOCAL PROMISED A
CONTINUATION OF THE POLICIES OF HIS PREDECESSOR.

2. IN SHORT EFFECTIVE SPEECH, HE GAVE DETAILS OF THE DEATH
OF GEN MOHAMMED, HIS AIDE, ORDERLY AND DRIVER. HE ALSO REVEALED
THE DEATH OF THE GOVERNOR OF KWARA STATE COL. IBRIHAM TAIWO
WHOSE BODY WAS FOUND IN GRAVE NEAR ILORIN. A THIRD CASUALTY
WAS A COL. DIMUDJA KILLEOSIN ANOTHER AREA OF LAGOS.

3. OBASANJO ANNOUNCED THERE HAD BEEN MANY ARRESTS AND THE FMG HAD
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ESTABLISHED A MILITARY BOARD OF INQUIRY TO CONDUCT A FULL SCALE

INVESTIGATION. CALLING ON PEOPLE NOT TO TAKE LAW INTO OWN HANDS
HE PROMISED JUSTICE WOULD BE DONE AND THAT FMG HAD MADE FIRM
DECISION TO SUMMARRILY DEAL IN EULITARY WAY WITH THOSE FOUND GUILTY.

4. CALLED ON "AGAINST MY PERSONAL WISHES AND DESIRES" TO SERVE
AS HEAD OF STATE HE PROMISED THAT ALL POLICIES OF FMG WOULD CONTINUE
AS BEFORE, "WE ARE STRONGLY COMMITTED TO ALL THAT WE HAVE BEEN
DOING".

5. THE SITUATION WAS UNDER CONTROL HE SAID BECAUSE OF THE LOYALTY
OF THE ARMED FORCES AND POLICE, HE HAD RECEIVED PUBLIC SUPPORT
FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. FRIDAY, FEB 20, WOULD BE PUBLIC
HOLIDAY AND A DAY OF PUBLIC MOURNING FOR THE LATE HEAD OF STATE.
HE FINISHED BY APPEALING FOR CALM AND ASKING THE PUBLIC O AVOID
ANY ACTION THAT WOULD LEAD TO A BREACH OF THE PEACE. HE
CALLED FOR ETERNAL VIGILANCE TO PRESERVE THE STABILITY OF THE NATION.

6. COMMENT: GIVEN THE FACT THAT HE DID NOT MENTION A LIFTING OF
THE DUSK TO DAWN CURFEW, IT IS ASSUMED THAT IT CONTINUES AND
FRONTIERS REMAIN CLOSED AND INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS SUSPENDED.

EASUM

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ALL AFRICAN POST.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASSASSINATION, CHIEF OF STATE, SPEECHES, MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LAGOS01889
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760057-0902
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760248/aaaabplx.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: housmasa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUL 2004 by oatisao>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2004 by housmasa>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GEN. OBASANJO'S BROADCAST TO NATION
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, NI, (OBASANJO, OLUSEGUN), (MOHAMMED, MURTULA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006